

This week we will study about a young widow who decided to leave her old life behind her and follow the true and living God.



# Torchlight

"No distinction on account of nationality, race, or caste, is recognized by God. He is the Maker of all mankind. All men are of one family by creation, and all are one through redemption. Christ came to demolish every wall of partition, to throw open every compartment of the temple courts, that every soul may have free access to God. His love is so broad, so deep, so full, that it penetrates everywhere...In Christ there is neither Jew nor Greek, bond or free " – Patriarchs & Kings p. 369, 370



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ALL BIBLE TEXTS FROM THE REMNANT YOUNG SCHOLAR STUDY BIBLE (NKJV) FRONT COVER PHOTO: SHOTSSTUDIO / 123RF STOCK PHOTO





## Ruth

Daily Devotional 32



**LET'S PRAY** Dear Father, thank You for my family and the care they provide for me. Lord, please give me a joyful heart so that I can be kind and thoughtful to others. Please send me Your Holy Spirit as I read the Bible so that I can understand what You are saying to me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - RUTH 1:6**

"... For wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God, my God."

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

**LET'S READ:** 

Ruth 1:1-7



#### LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our Bible reading today tells us about a family living in Bethlehem during the time of the Judges. We know from our last couple of devotionals that the Israelites experienced times of oppression from their enemies, so food was short. During one of those times, a family of four – Elimelech, Naomi and their two sons Mahlon and Chilion – decided to leave Bethlehem and go to the other side of the Dead Sea, to the land of Moab, where conditions were better. Verse 3 tells us Elimelech died. We don't know how long they had been in Moab before this happened but the Bible says they lived there for at least ten years. Naomi and her sons chose to stay in Moab and during that time her sons married Moabite women. Then in



verse 5 the Bible tells us that both Mahlon and Chilion died. Naomi heard that there was no longer a famine in Bethlehem and wished to return to her homeland. Our reading for today finished with Naomi and her two daughters in law beginning their journey back to Bethlehem.

Naomi's family may have escaped the famine but in the process of time Naomi lost both her husband and two sons. This must have been a really difficult experience for her – or a bittersweet one. Can you think of an experience in your life where there has been a good aspect and a bad aspect at the same time? What did you learn from it?

#### FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - RUTH 1:\_

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	, with her; and they went on the
	_ With Fior, and they work on the
way to return to the land of Judah."	





**LET'S PRAY** Dear God, thank You for loving me so much. Help me to be faithful and obedient, as I can't do it on my own. I want Your light to shine through me today so people will know that You are my God. Thank You for my Bible. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - RUTH 1:6**

"... For wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God, my God."

#### **LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS**

From our reading today we find that, not long into their journey, Naomi decided that it would be better if her daughters-in-law stayed in their own country with their families and be free to re-marry. Orpah chose to stay behind but Ruth didn't want to stay in Moab and decided to follow her mother-in-law back to Bethlehem in Judah. We don't know if they walked, rode a donkey or travelled by ox cart. Whatever way they chose to return, it would have been a long journey for them. Naomi's return was not unnoticed. Verse 19 tells us the inhabitants of Bethlehem were excited to see her again. Naomi and Ruth arrived

there at harvest time.

Despite the difficult time Naomi had experienced, she must still have let her light shine as Ruth saw that Naomi's God was a God worth following. Ruth left her family, country and idol worship behind. Ruth showed great faith and believed in the true God. Naomi's example is something we can follow. Even though we may be going through a tough time, and even voice it as did Naomi, always remember to let your light shine so people will know that God is still a God worth following.



#### FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - RUTH 1:\_

"Then they lifted up their voices and wept again; and \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Ruth 1:8-22







LET'S PRAY Dear Lord, thank You for Your wonderful promises in the Bible which I can claim to help me in my walk with You. Help me to praise and thank You more as I want a more grateful heart. Help me to understand what I read today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - RUTH 1:6**

"... For wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God, my God."

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

**LET'S READ:** 

Ruth 2:1-12



#### LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

The Bible tells us today that Ruth decided, with Naomi's permission, to go and find some grain in the fields. The Bible uses the word 'glean' in relation to what Ruth did. Deuteronomy 24:19 tells us that Moses gave the children of Israel instructions that if any grain or fruit from the harvest fell on the ground it was not to be picked up by the owner or workers. It was to be left so the poor, stranger, orphan and widow could collect, or glean, the leftovers so that they could have something to eat. Boaz arrived at his property and noticed a foreign woman in his field. His



servant in charge told him that it was Ruth the Moabite, who had come back with Naomi. Boaz told Ruth that he would guarantee her safety if she stayed in his fields. Boaz let Ruth know that the sacrifice she had made in following Naomi back to Bethlehem and leaving her old life behind was well known.

Notice in verse 12 that Boaz makes mention of Ruth seeking refuge under God's wings. This is a comforting thought. Go to these verses to find out more: *Exodus 19:4*, *Psalms 17:8* and *Matthew 23:37*.

#### FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - RUTH 2:\_

"Then she left, and went and gleaned in the field afte	er the reapers. And
she happened to come to the part	
	"





LET'S PRAY Dearest Heavenly Father, thank You for the food you provide for me to eat and the water I drink. Help me not to be selfish and think only of myself. Help me to be caring and kind so I can let others know how much You love them. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - RUTH 1:6**

"... For wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God, my God."

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

**LET'S READ:** 

Ruth 2:13-23



#### LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading today tells us that the landowner, Boaz, invited Ruth to eat with them. Boaz told his harvesters not to harass Ruth but to let her be. They were also told to be generous with what fell to the ground so Ruth could glean extra amounts. At the end of the day, verse 17 tells us that Ruth had gleaned an ephah of barley, which the dictionary in the Remnant Young Scholar Study Bible tells us is a dry measure of twenty-two litres. When Ruth returned home to her mother-in-law, Naomi was pleasantly surprised that Ruth had had such a successful day. Ruth finds out from



Naomi that Boaz, the landowner, is actually a relative of theirs. Verse 23 tells us Ruth gleaned both the barley and wheat harvest, which could have lasted around seven weeks. Naomi would have sold some of the grain to make some money so they could survive.

It's interesting that verses 14 and 18 tell us that Ruth was thinking of Naomi's needs while she was out gleaning and purposely set aside some of her food for her mother-in-law. While you are about your day-to-day activities do you think of other people's needs? It's something to think about!

#### FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - RUTH 2:\_

"	
	,,, of barley harvest and wheat harvest; and
she dv	elt with her mother-in-law "





LET'S PRAY Dear God, help me to follow You and not follow the idols of this world. Thank You for all You do for me. I know You have an amazing plan for my life, so please help me to trust and be faithful to You.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - RUTH 1:6**

"... For wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God, my God."

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Ruth 3:1-18



#### LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading today tells us of a matchmaking plan that Naomi wanted to put in action for Ruth, as she wanted to secure Ruth's future. Naomi also wanted the land that her deceased husband had owned and sold before going to Moab to be restored back to her family line. Hebrew law and custom would allow this to happen if Ruth married a relative, which Boaz was. Naomi instructed Ruth on exactly what she was to do and Ruth faithfully obeyed her. Ruth found out where Boaz was sleeping in the field after he had threshed some barley in the early evening. Ruth lay down at his feet and when Boaz discovered her, he agreed, as a close relative, to perform the duty of marriage

to take her under his wing as she had requested in verse 9. But there was a problem, Boaz told Ruth that there was actually a closer relative than he was but assured Ruth that he would sort it out. Boaz sent Ruth away in the early morning with six ephahs of barley, which when you work it out in our measurement, is around 132 litres of dry measure. That was an amazing amount of grain for a reaper, to have.

Ruth had a trusting heart, as she trusted the guidance of both Naomi and Boaz. God also wants us to trust in Him for all our needs. We are to trust the guidance He provides for us in the Bible which shows us how to live our lives.



#### FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - RUTH 3:\_

"Now it is true that I am a close relati	ve;,
"	





LET'S PRAY Dear Lord, thank You for keeping me safe this past week. Help me to prepare for Your Sabbath and be mindful as the hours draw to a close. Thank You for my Bible. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - RUTH 1:6**

"... For wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God, my God."

### THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

**LET'S READ:** 

Ruth 4:1-12



#### LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our Bible reading today tells us about a meeting between Boaz, the man who was the closest relative, and ten of the town's elders. The matter of the land, which Elimelech had owned before going to Moab, was discussed. For the ownership of the land to continue in Naomi's family line it had to be redeemed. The closest relative told Boaz that he did not want to redeem it. So Boaz told the group that he would redeem the land and take Ruth as his wife so the inheritance of the land would continue through Naomi and Ruth. A sandal was exchanged to confirm the



transaction, which was a Hebrew custom that was legally binding for exchanging contracts. The elders pronounced a blessing on Boaz and Ruth.

Boaz redeemed both Ruth and Naomi. Jesus also redeemed us by dying on the cross so that our inheritance of eternal life and living with Him in heaven would be restored to us. Check out these verses: *Leviticus* 25:25, *Isaiah* 43:1, *Galatians* 3:13 and *Titus* 2:14.

#### FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - RUTH 4:\_

"And the close relative said,	'I cannot redeem	ı it for myself, lest I ruir	1
my own inheritance.You			_
-	""		





LET'S PRAY Dearest Heavenly Father, thank You so much for providing me with a special day in which I can rest and have a break from this busy world. Help me to draw closer to You today as I learn more about You and what You have done for me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - RUTH 1:6**

"... For wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God, my God."

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Ruth 4:13-22



#### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Our reading today tells us that Boaz did indeed marry Ruth and they had a son named Obed. Naomi was blessed as the sadness of losing her husband and sons was turned to joy when she celebrated the birth of her grandson. The women of the town of Bethlehem rejoiced with her. The story of Ruth did not start well. It started with a famine and the family of four members moving away to a foreign land. Three of the family members died, leaving Naomi childless and a widow. But the story ends with great joy with the celebration of new life. Naomi now has a

grandson to help care for and the security of being looked after in her old age. Ruth, after losing her husband through death, has a chance of a new life with a new husband and the birth of her first child.

God chose a foreigner – a non-Hebrew – to be in the family line of the coming Jesus. Ruth's son, Obed, was to be the grandfather of King David. Ruth's faith in choosing to follow Naomi's God and leave her old life behind her is an amazing example of what God can also do for us if we choose to trust Him.



#### SABBATH QUIZ

- 1. Who were the four people who left Bethlehem to go to Moab?
- 2. Who was the daughter-in-law who chose to stay in Moab?
- 3. What was the grain that Ruth went to glean in Boaz's field?
- 4. How many ephans of grain did Boaz give to Ruth to take home to Naomi?
- 5. What was exchanged when Boaz redeemed Naomi and Ruth's inheritance?